

Ormat Technologies Salt Wells Geothermal Energy Project

Toward a safe, clean energy future: Ormat Technologies Salt Wells Geothermal Energy Project will be located on public and private land in Churchill County, Nevada.

VITALS

Location: Churchill County, NV

Technology: Binary Geothermal Power Plant

Electricity production capacity: 40 megawatts

Company: Ormat Technologies (Reno, NV)



THE BLM ACTION - BLM's decision authorizes:

- ✓ Construct up to 13 new well pads, roads, and pipelines.

BY THE NUMBERS - the project is expected to:

- ✓ Generate enough electricity to power approximately 12,000 homes.
- ✓ Create up to 85 construction jobs and numerous permanent operation jobs.
- ✓ Be located on 6,948 acres. The BLM manages almost 71 percent of the land in Churchill County.

A SMART, COLLABORATIVE PROCESS: In April 2009, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) committed to helping the nation reach its clean energy future by guaranteeing coordinated processing, full environmental analysis and public review for specific renewable energy projects where the companies involved had demonstrated they were ready to advance to the formal environmental review and public participation process.

STRONG ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND MITIGATION: The BLM worked closely with federal, state and local partners to advance environmentally sound projects.

- ✓ BLM coordinated with Churchill County, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the Naval Air Station Fallon to address concerns involving conservation easements and a future land transfer.
- ✓ Ormat Technologies will construct the Carson Lake Binary Power Plant and Substation, the Macari Switching Station, and a 230-kilovolt transmission line between the Carson Lake Substation and the Macari Switching Station all within a privately-owned, 80-acre parcel.
- ✓ Ormat Technologies worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife to reduce potential impacts to migratory birds through the development of an Avian Protection Plan.
- ✓ BLM will require a natural color palette and night lighting minimization measures designed to reduce visual impacts on the local community.

- ✓ Ormat Technologies and the BLM worked closely with the Nevada Department of Wildlife and the Bureau of Reclamation to mitigate water resource concerns to Carson Lake and Pasture.

THE BIG PICTURE: Secretary Salazar has established a Department-wide goal to complete the environmental reviews for 9,000 megawatts of renewable energy by the end of 2011. The State of Nevada is working to achieve a 25% Renewable Portfolio Standard by 2025. The Ormat Technologies Salt Wells Geothermal Energy Project is one of the initiatives that will help bring Nevada and this nation one step closer to a clean energy economy.